MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

14th Feb.—In Eritrea operations for the reduction of Keren are proceeding. Royal Air Force bomb Dodecanese islands and Rhodes.

Greek troops capture the village of Amlina near the source of the Skumbi river. Royal Air Force attack enemy concentrations in the area north of Tepelini.

The British Board of Trade announce that Rumania is an enemy territory for trading purposes.

The United States Senate started the debate on the Lease and Lend Bill on the 13th February.

The Yugoslav Prime Minister and Foreign Minister meet Hitler and Von Ribbentrop.

It is reported that six ships in a British convoy have been sunk by a German surface raider.

It is revealed that 233 German and Italian ships are sheltering in neutral harbours and are afraid to move into open sea.

Royal Air Force raid German invasion bases along the French coast.

German long range artillery shell the South-east coast in the Dover area.

Enemy aircraft drop bombs on Malta. Negligible damage was caused.

Enemy air activity over Britain. Bombs dropped in Eastern England, London, and the Home Counties. Damage was nowhere heavy and casualties were few.

15th Feb.—The Sudan Defence Force captures Quessan in Abyssinia and in Italian Somaliland the South African troops occupy the important Italian port of Kismayu.

The Yugoslav Ministers report to the Regent, Prince Paul, their talks with Hitler and Ribbentrop. Hitler is stated to have offered to Yugoslavia the Drin valley in Northern Albania together with the town of Scutari, an outlet to the Aegean Sea at Salonika by means of a twenty-mile corridor, and the territory around Lake Ochrida including presumably Koritza and other towns captured by the Greeks. In return Yugoslavia should cede to Hungary and Bulgaria territories which they lost during the last war and should disinterest herself in the fate of Greece.

Admiral Darlan takes over also the portfolio of the Minister of Interior from M. Peyrouton, who has resigned.

It is reported that British soldiers were dropped by parachute in Southern Italy. Their instructions were to demolish certain objectives connected with ports in that area.

Royal Air Force raid Rhodes, Catania, Syracuse and Brindisi.

It is disclosed that the Bulgarian Prime Minister refused to give an undertaking that Bulgaria would not enter into any agreement with Germany permitting the entry of German troops in the country. The British Minister in Sofia warns the Bulgarian Foreign Minister that Britain will break off diplomatic relations if German troops occupy Bulgaria or use it as a base against Greece.

Royal Air Force attack industrial targets in the Ruhr, enemy aerodromes in North-west Germany, docks at Ostend, Calais, Denhelder and Boulogne.

There has been slight enemy air activity over Britain. Some damage and casualties were caused in North-east England, East Scotland and on East Anglian Coast. Three enemy bombers were destroyed.

16th Feb.—Concentration of additional troops about Keren in Eritrea is proceeding. The British reoccupy Kurmuk in Abyssinia.

Greek troops completely rout the Eleventh Italian Army in the Moscopolis-Tepelini sector. They have made another big drive in the gorges of the Predesinje mountains.

It is stated that Italian casualties in the British bombardment of Genoa totalled 144 killed and 272 injured.

The British Admiralty announces the mining of the eastern entrance to the Straits of Singapore. British women and children in Thailand and Britons in occupied China have been advised to leave.

Enemy air activity over England. Bombs dropped in London and in Eastern and South-eastern England. Damage and casualties were small.

17th Feb.—In the area east of Lake Rudolf (Abyssinia) British troops continue their penetration. In Italian Somaliland enemy forces have been driven back to the line of the Juba river.

The Greeks, having smashed the Italian Eleventh Army, dominate the Tepelini-Klissura sector from the Tebesheni mountain. Italian counter-attacks fail.

A non-aggression agreement between Turkey and Bulgaria has been concluded.

Enemy aircraft bomb Benghazi.

Nazi raids on Britain. Bombs dropped in East and South-east England and North Scotland, causing little damage and a small number of casualties.

18th Feb.—Italians evacuate Dangela and other important posts in the Gojjam in Abyssinia. One million Senussi in Tripolitania, Egypt, Sudan, Hedjaz, Palestine, Syria and Sahara are taking up the fight on Britain's side.

The battle for Keren is expected to enter a new phase shortly. The British column, advancing from the north is steadily closing in on the town and has reached a point 90 miles from the Sudan frontier and 45 miles north of Keren. It will soon be in contact with the Italian defences. Keren is already menaced from the west by British and Indian troops.

Enemy planes raid the Suez Canal. Bombs were dropped but there was no damage or casualties.

Aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm have sunk a German merchant ship and an Italian supply ship in the Central Mediterranean and damaged an Italian supply ship and an Italian auxiliary warship in the same area.

American interests are negotiating for the purchase of 27 Italian vessels interned in United States ports including the 23,000 ton liner "Conte Biancamano." The transfer of these ships valued at about ten million dollars would make available more American ships for Britain under the Lease and Lend Bill.

Single German aircraft drop bombs in East Anglia and in South and South-east England. Some damage and casualties caused. British fighters destroy two enemy bombers.

It is reported that Germany is being prepared for "massive bombardments" in an expected big-scale British aid offensive in Spring and German children are being evacuated to Austria.

The Admiralty announces that the minesweeper *Huntley* has been sunk.

Royal Air Force raid aerodromes on the Dodecanese islands.

Reliable reports state that German planes made reconnaissance flights over Greece. No bombs were dropped and they were not fired on by the Greeks.

19th Feb.—British pressure on the lines of the River Juba in Somaliland in increasing. British troops capture Enjabara in Abyssinia. The Italian post of Piccolo Abbai has also been occupied.

Greeks continue to harass the Eleventh Italian Army in the Klissura-Tepeleni sector. On the extreme right of the front, north of Pogradetz, the Italians hold up violent Greek attacks. In the Devoli-Moscopolis sector, the Greeks dominate the whole of the area and are striking heavy blows as they advance.

The Royal Air Force maintain concentrated attacks on enemy positions in the Tepeleni area in support of the Greek forces.

Three Japanese destroyers are visiting the mouth of the Menam river 16 miles from Bangkok with the previous permission of the Thailand Government.

Thousands of Australian troops have arrived in Singapore and have entrained for various parts of Malaya.

The British Air Forces in the Far East have been powerfully reinforced with modern fighters. These reinforcements are stationed bombers and twin-engined and single-engined at points of strategic importance.

Commenting on the offer made by a Japanese Government spokesman that Japan was ready to mediate in any war if invited and if the situation were favourable, authoritative circles in London state that "Great Britain will not entertain peace proposals until complete victory has been gained."

One of the German raiders preying on British shipping in the Pacific is according to an authoritative source in Washington the former Latvian ship Herzog Jakob (9,000 tons) capable of a speed of 18 knots.

Enemy air activity over Britain. Bombs dropped on London, Swansea in South Wales and other places in southern part of England and in East Scotland. Some damage was done but the number of casualties is not large. It is revealed that the Southwark Cathedral in London on the Surrey Side suffered great damage.

The Royal Air Force Coastal Command planes attack the enemy naval base at Brest and the docks at Calais.

20th Feb.—The garrison at Mega in Southern Abyssinia has capitulated to the South African troops. The Imperial troops have crossed the Juba river driving off enemy counter-attacks. Bomber and fighter units of the Royal Air Force South African Air Force and the Royal Australian Air Force destroy eleven enemy aircraft.

Serious fighting between Polish armed bands and German Police in Central Poland is reported.

Conscription has been introduced in Malta. The Government have been empowered to call all males between the ages of 18 and 41 for military service.

The British submarine *Sea Lion* destroyed a Norwegian ship of about 1,500 tons operating under German control off the Norwegian coast.

British fighters carried out some offensive patrol activity over the French coast. Two British fighters are missing.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 11th February 1941:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
February 5, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweep over N. France, and Belgium, including raids on docks, warships and oil supplies at Ostend, Brest, Bordeaux and other invasion bases; aerodrome at St. Omer.	7	4
February 6, Thursday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on invasion bases at Boulogne, Dieppe (barges), Dunkirk (shipping), Calais (warehouses), Fécamp (railways).	1	..
February 7, Friday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on Channel invasion bases, including Boulogne and Calais.	Nil.	
February 8, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on Rotterdam and Flushing; convoy off S. Norwegian coast, R.A.F. night bomber raid on factories at Mannheim.	1	
February 9, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on oil stores at Flushing; docks at Antwerp; other objectives in occupied territory; war-ships off Norwegian coast, R.A.F. night bomber raids on objectives in N. W. Germany.	2	..
February 10, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps (3) over N. France, including raids on invasion bases at Dunkirk, Boulogne, Calais. R.A.F. day bomber raids on objectives in N.W. Germany and occupied territory. R.A.F. night bomber raids on Hanover (factories, railways); other objectives in N.W. Germany; Rotterdam (docks and oil stores); two aerodromes in Holland; invasion bases at Ostend, Boulogne, Cherbourg.	7	2
February 11, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweep over N. France, including raid on invasion base at Boulogne. R.A.F. night bomber raids on dockyards at Bremen; factories at Hanover; other objectives in N.W. Germany; oil stores at Rotterdam; shipping at Christiansund (Norway); Thisted seaplane base in Jutland (Denmark).	4 (one bomber's crew safe).	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 11th February 1941 :—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
February 5	Nil.	5 (1 crashed in Eire).
February 6	Nil.	..
February 7	Nil.	1
February 8	Nil.	3
February 9	Nil.	2
February 10	Nil.	1
February 11	Nil.	..

TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK.

The outstanding event of the week is the landing of British parachutists in South Italy at the end of last week, news of which came first from Italy and Germany. They were dropped from British troop-carrying planes to demolish certain objectives connected with ports. They landed in a lonely part of South Italy on the borders of the Provinces of Lucania and Calabria and it has since been ascertained that, firstly, this enterprise was intimately connected with operations in North Africa and in Albania and, secondly that considerable dislocation has been caused to traffic in that part of Italy. It has now been revealed that this successful venture was the result of a long period of training which the British troops had been given somewhere in England in parachute landing. Certain features of this attempt are conspicuous.—(1) The skill and daring of these soldiers, (2) the courage of these men who, unlike German parachutists who landed in the Low Countries, had no sure base to return to and were sure of being captured, (3) the spirit of offensive which now dominates British military policy.

There have been striking developments in the campaign in North Africa. A British column is steadily advancing on Keren in Eritrea from the north, while another column is advancing from the west. The battle of Keren is soon expected to reach its culminating point. In somaliland the capture of the port of Kismayu has been followed by increasing pressure on the lines of river Juba which has now been crossed and Yubaland has been cleared of Italians. The Abyssinian patriots have captured Dengila, 40 miles off Lake Tana. This place controls the whole of the Gojjam province and it is from this town that roads radiate to Addis Ababa and other important places; it fell after four days of intensive attack. Other important posts have also been occupied.

The Greeks continue to harass the Eleventh Italian Army on the Klissura-Tepelini sector and fresh attacks are being made in other sectors as well with the strong support of the Royal Air Force.

In regard to operations in East Africa the following points emphasized by Major Fielding Eliot, the well-known American Military Commentator, may be noted :—

(i) Asmara is the point where three main roads into Ethiopia leave the railway, one to Addis Ababa, one to Tigre Province and one west and south to Gonda.

(ii) Massawa could not defend itself against the master of Asmara.

(iii) The advance from Agordat to Asmara is likely to prove difficult owing to mountainous country Asmara lies much higher than Agordat.

(iv) The terrain east of Barentu is so rough that it offers little opportunity for a parallel advance towards Asmara, but at Barentu a column could turn south towards Gonda.

(v) Gonda, one of the Ethiopian historic cities, has great significance in the African mind. If Haile Selassie were to hoist his flag in this venerable city it would have great effect throughout Ethiopia. Its strategic importance is limited.

(vi) The Kenya front lacks good communications and operations here will be mainly patrol activity. Command of the sea, however, permits descents on the long coastline of Somaliland.

(vii) Italian air strength in East Africa is variously estimated from 300 to 600 planes of all types. The air is the only means of supplying and reinforcing some Italian outposts, but petrol, lubricant and ammunition shortage have limited air activity. Air superiority for the British seems assured.

While these developments are reassuring the world has been taken by surprise by the conclusion of a pact of non-aggression between Bulgaria and Turkey. At this stage, it is perhaps well not to form any definite conclusions about its repercussions. American opinion appears to think that it is a setback so far as the Allies are concerned, while, as may be expected, the Axis Powers are making much of it. But no note of despondency is to be perceived in the comments made on the Pact in Great Britain and Greece, while in Bulgaria and Turkey as well as in Yugoslavia this development is heartily welcomed.

A rather surprising event in the midst of this confusion and conflict is the offer of mediation by Japan. A formal note has been addressed to Mr. Eden, British Foreign Minister, by the Japanese Foreign Minister in which the latter offers "to take whatever action is needed to restore normal conditions not only in the Far East but anywhere in the world". An attempt is being made to explain away this move, but that it was real is certain. Of course, official reaction in Great Britain to this offer is that it will receive the consideration which the authority of the sender demands, but that there is no likelihood that there will be any change in the general principles of British policy. An ordinary man in the street will say that it is presumptuous on the part of Japan which, so far as aggression is concerned, is totalitarian and has invaded China, presumes to become a dictator in the Far East and indulges in threats to Great Britain and America, should now assume the role of a mediator. But Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, is not a new man in politics. As *The Daily Mail* stated a few days ago he protests and appeals alternately and his resemblance to Hitler, it says, is more than a matter of moustache. Did he not declare at Geneva : "In twenty-six centuries we have never taken anything from anybody and do not want to annex Manchuria"? He protests that Japan's aims in Asia are peaceful and yet has already forced Thailand to give Japan certain concessions and

threatens the Dutch East Indies. This inconstancy apparently due to a desire to wage a war of nerves like Hitler, seems to be Mr. Matsuoka's policy.

TURKO-BULGARIA PACT

The non-aggression agreement between Bulgaria and Turkey was published on Monday last and it contains four main points. The basis of foreign policy of these two countries will be to abstain from any aggression and they will be inspired by most friendly intentions towards each other. Trade relations will be developed between them and there is an appeal to the Press of these countries that their writings will be inspired by mutual friendship and confidence. The following points, which appear to indicate that the Pact will not make any change in the present situation, which is tense and forebodes evil, may be noted :

(1) German military preparations inside Bulgaria are proceeding apace. Rail-roads, bridges and roads are being got ready and petrol dumps are being laid down.

(2) The German radio is threatening Turkey and openly says that she is no longer master of the Balkans as she was thirty years ago.

(3) It is not clear whether, under the new Pact, the Germans will be allowed to pass through Bulgaria to attack Greece.

(4) Bulgaria has already become so subservient to Germany that it is doubtful whether she would be allowed to observe the Pact.

There are, however, certain features which are calculated to reassure the public mind :—

(1) Great Britain has reiterated her policy that it is her intention that Bulgaria should preserve her independence and political integrity.

(2) The initiative in regard to the Pact was taken by Turkey and Great Britain was fully informed of the progress of the negotiations.

(3) Official Bulgarian circles are gratified because the Pact may enable them to stay out of the European conflict and they say that German troops will not be allowed to pass through their country.

(4) It is stated that the Pact will not alter radically the present position and Turkey will adhere to her commitments to Greece and Great Britain. Turkey's declarations point to the fact that, though her military strength in Thrace may be reduced, she will not remain quiet if her defences are threatened.

(5) There is good ground for the belief that Russia took a prominent part in bringing about this Pact because the Soviet Government wanted to save the Balkans from the European conflict.

The net result is that the responsibility for further complications in the Balkans will rest solely on Hitler and circumstances point to the fact that the large concentrations of troops in Rumania and the stranglehold which Hitler has got on Bulgaria mean that Germany intends to help Italy by attacking Greece, in which case, if Turkey's defences are threatened, she will not consent to remain quiet.

THE FAR EAST

The position in the Far East, on the whole, appears to be less critical than it was a week ago. There are reports of Japanese concentrations of troops on Hainan island off South China. An Italian newspaper says that, while Great Britain has strengthened her Mediterranean Fleet, the Japanese Navy has orders to sail towards the direction of Singapore, according to a commentator in the B.B.C. Japan is mediating in the Thailand-Indo-China dispute and an award will not be given for nothing. Japan's immediate objective is to secure essential supplies of oil, coal, rubber, iron, etc., and her long-range objective is the domination of the whole of South-east Asia and the Pacific. Her anxiety to secure these supplies explains her interest in Indo-China, Thailand and the East Indies generally. But the influence of Germany is very great and one cannot say what practical effect such influence will produce in making Japan take the offensive at the time when Hitler commences his offensive in Europe in the spring. There are a number of factors which should be remembered in connexion with the Far East problem :

(1) Singapore is now practically an island fortress. Fifteen million dollars have not been spent in vain. Australian forces landed there in the last few days and bombers and fighters have also been taken to that place. It has now become the British bastion of liberty in the Far East. The waters near Singapore have been mined.

(2) Malaya is also under excellent protection. So also is Burma, as the Governor stated the other day. So far as America is concerned large appropriations have been made by the Congress for constructing and strengthening air and naval bases in the Pacific and in the Atlantic and Guam (American) and Samoa (Mandate) in the Pacific will soon become great bases for the American Navy and aircraft. Samoa's importance consists in its situation between Hawaii and New Zealand, which, according to the *Asahi*, makes it a link in the American plans for encircling Japan and enabling the American Fleet to connect with Manila and Singapore *via* Australia. The United States has her Navy at Hawaii in the Pacific and if developments should arise in or near Singapore the American fleet at Hawaii will not be idle.

(3) The Dutch East Indies have an efficient land force of 85,000 and a pretty strong Navy consisting of four cruisers, eight destroyers and twenty submarines, and an Air Force of 500.

(4) Close contact is maintained by China and China will do its little bit in resisting Japanese aggression in the South so far as it lies in her power.

(5) Thailand has repeated her assurance that she wants to continue her friendly relations with Great Britain. Her only objective is to recover districts in Cambodia and she has little to gain and much to lose by succumbing to Japanese threats or influence.

(*Continued on Page* 6)

THE LEASE AND LEND BILL

PROGRESS IN THE AMERICAN CONGRESS

People outside the United States of America may be inclined to be impatient at what appears to them to be the slow progress of 'The Lease and Lend Bill' in the Congress. According to that measure, the President is authorized, until June 30, 1943, "to have manufactured, or otherwise procure, any defence article for the government of any country whose defence he deems vital to the defence of the United States" with the proviso that no such contract can extend beyond July 1, 1946. He is authorized to transfer defence articles to such governments on any terms which he considers satisfactory after consultation with the heads of the Army and Navy within a limitation of 1,300,000,000 dollars on the value of American military and naval equipment existing or under the present appropriation thus transferred, but with no limit on the money value of future aid. Though the Congress has power to rescind the authority thus conveyed by a mere concurrent resolution of both houses not requiring the President's signature the constitutionality of the provision is gravely doubted. The measure authorizes this programme, but leaves the appropriation of the moneys required in the hands of the Congress, to be voted as the President from time to time shall request.

There is some doubt about the actual effect of the amendment which was adopted limiting the amount of aid to be given from existing stocks. This appears to include equipment contracted for during the current fiscal year, but it does not apply to future appropriations under the Bill or to equipment required by the United States forces under appropriations already requested by the President for the fiscal year. In any case this limit is fixed at 1,300,000,000 dollars. "It thus leaves plenty of elbow-room" says *The Times*, "especially as the cash value of any equipment transferred to Governments resisting aggression will be fixed by the President, who is authorized to settle the terms on which transfers may be made."

The Bill has now passed through the House of Representatives and is being considered by the Senate. It must be remembered that Bills are normally discussed at considerable length and guillotine machinery for expediting business exists in a very modified degree. In the American constitution the President's tenure does not depend upon the vote of the Congress and the Congress is independent of the President so that every member, be he a Government supporter or not, considers himself to be independent and has his full say. Whips, therefore, cannot reckon upon the number of votes the Government will get with the same certainty as in England.

The Bill is first considered by the appropriate Committee of each house and the Lease and Lend Bill, before it went to the House of Representatives, was considered by its Foreign Relations Commitee. This Bill is now before the Senate after the Foreign Relations Committee voted on it by 15 votes to 8. (The House of Representatives passed the Bill by 260 votes to 165.) It may well be expected that discussion on the Bill will be keener in the Senate than in the House of Representatives because the Senate contains many members who are authorities on foreign affairs. Besides the senators' long terms, i.e., six years, and the fact that they represent States (two from each of the 48 States) and not numerically equal constituencies make them even more independent of the executive than the Representatives. It is expected that the Bill will get through in the Senate by 96 votes to 20 and this will be, of course, because of Mr. Willkie's visit to England and his evidence to the Senate Committee and Mr. Churchill's call for help.

It may be noted that the Japanese threats to the United States have had the result of strengthening the hands of the administration. One Senator stated on Wednesday that the slogan "short of war," has been changed into a "war, if that is necessary to save England." Another Senator declared: "I hope this intervention does not mean war, if it does, I am ready for it."

TALKING POINTS

(*Continued from Page 5*)

(6) Japan is now compelled to recognize the Dutch Government in London which has categorically stated that the Netherlands East Indies will not consent to become involved in the Japanese New Order in the Far East.

(7) A study of the map will show how distances are enormous; for instance, Singapore to Yokohama (South Japan) is 2,900 miles, Singapore to Hainan is 1,100 miles, Singapore to Sydney (Australia) is 3,300 miles, Yokohama to Guam is 1,500 miles and Yokohama to Hawaii is 3,380 miles. Only large ships can therefore undertake such long voyages between these places without refueling. The importance therefore of Guam and Samoa to American Navy and Aircraft will become obvious, while the distances will tell against large-scale actions by the Japanese.

A Japanese spokesman has stated that the strengthening of Singapore defences means a menace to Japan and will add fuel to the fire. The fact, however, is that the British action in this respect has been provoked by the utterances of Japanese statesmen and the movement of naval craft. This action on the part of Great Britain is only a warning and not a threat to Japan. The fact that Tokyo is 3,500 miles from Singapore means that Great Britain does not want to menace Japan, but desires to take precautions against all eventualities. "Deeds and not words", is the policy of both Great Britain and the United States of America in regard to the Far East.

GERMAN AND BRITISH PROPAGANDA

A COMPARISON AND A CONTRAST.

In the last few weeks, Lord Haw Haw has been complaining that British broadcasts are confusing and contradictory and that what is sent over the air to one country is often very different from that radiated to other countries. The world knows by this time what credence should be attached to German radio broadcasts. On the other hand, Great Britain takes good care to see that there is no deviation even under the stress of danger from the traditional British policy in war publicity and Mr. Duff Cooper stated the other day that the British Government do not want the B.B.C. to become simply a mouthpiece of the Government. The German complaint about misrepresentation and contradiction is merely a difference in emphasis employed in publicity by Great Britain. If, for instance, the British broadcasts told the countries in subjection to German yoke: "Help is coming, hold on!", and to the United States of America an appeal is made for more munitions, there is no contradiction, but a stress on different aspects of the problem. On the contrary, it is notorious that German propagandists have developed duplicity to a fine art. For instance, the broadcast from Zeesen to Asia (January 20, 1941) stated as follows :—

"Propagandists in England check up on the various news bulletins that the German short-wave stations are giving out daily in some 20 different languages, and then pick out obvious discrepancies between what is said in one language and in another. The game is usually interesting and successful because modern propaganda is based on the principle of not letting your left hand know what your right hand does."

The following are a few of many examples of direct discrepancies (not merely variety of emphasis) in German propaganda to different countries :—

(1) *To German listeners (Zeesen), 5th August* 1940.—"It is not within British power to let Europe starve. Least of all does such a danger exist for Germany. It is impossible to see how the Continent could get into food difficulties."

To North American listeners, 10th August 1940.—"If France, Belgium and Holland are cut off from overseas food supplies, famine will certainly come and it will be a direct consequence of the British blockade. Germany is not in the least interested."

(2) *To English listeners (Bremen), 20th January* 1941.—"Mr. Wendell Willkie is planning a voyage to Britain to have a look round as a private American citizen. Obviously he is anxious to find out what his countryman, Mr. Harry Hopkins, has been up to."

To Slovak listeners (Bratislava), 20th January 1941.—"It is quite clear that Willkie is going to England as Roosevelt's emissary."

(3) *To English and American listeners, 12th August* 1940.—"It is now known that British fighters avoid coming into contact with German bombers and interceptors."

To German listeners, 12th August 1940.—"That Spitfire was really doing faultless flying. . . . The Spitfire was twisting and turning, at one point flying while on its back . . . . A Spitfire approached at an incredible speed and attacked our first flight." (From a Nazi pilot's talk.)

(4) *To North American listeners, 13th January* 1941.—"The United States of America are expected to finance the British war, but the United States of America are also expected to supply war materials. . . This will mean that Americans will have a lower standard of living, higher prices and more working hours."

To English listeners, 14th January 1941.—"I wonder how many Englishmen realize how much the United States are responsible for the outbreak of the present war? The fact is that the United States don't care who wins the war; even at the cost of millions of dollars they would prolong the war because if Europe goes under the United States will win."

THE WAR AND AFTER

In a talk to America, Mr. Colin R. Coote, well-known journalist, described democracy in action in Great Britain at the present day, in the midst of the war. Individual citizens, he pointed out, preserved their democratic traditions and believed in liberty of speech and of the Press so long as that liberty was not used to help the enemy. These people, Mr. Coote said, "would be different after the hell they were now in. They would have overcome the usual friction, learnt to know each other better, appreciated community life much better than they do now and thus contributed to the making of the New Order. War had given an impetus to the study of nutrition. Admittedly there had been no unusual spread of epidemic diseases in London or elsewhere and this was partly because increased use was made of protected food and efficient methods of cooking have been introduced. Again, though all persons and property have been placed at the disposal of the Government the fighting services were citizen services and it is hoped that the intermingling in the Army may lead to new understanding after the war, especially because promotion depended on ability and not on birth.

A MUSSOLINI CALENDAR

IL DUCE'S WORDS AND DEEDS.

Shortly after war broke out in September 1939, a list of the succession of false pledges which Hitler employed to promote his campaign of aggression was published and became widely known under the title of "A Hitler Calendar." The following extracts from the speeches and writings of Mussolini constitute a calendar which shows that he has no reason to fear comparison with the Fuhrer.

FASCIST MORALITY.

"Fascism is not an article for export,"—*March* 3, 1928. *In the Chamber.*

On October 27, 1930, Mussolini abandoned the pretence that Fascism was a matter of purely internal concern. "The struggle develops from now onwards over a world-wide field," he said. "Fascism is on the agenda in all countries. The phrase 'Fascism is not for export' is not mine."

"Bitter experience has shown that the most urgent need of the world to-day is the renaissance of international forces working together to reach a common goal, and the removal of the atmosphere of apprehension and distrust which has hitherto dislocated economic life."—*August* 21, 1932. *In the Paris* Excelsior *on the coming World Economic Conference.*

By 1935 Mussolini was claiming that Italy was well on the way to economic self-sufficiency.

"The Head of the Government has confirmed the willingness of the Italian Government to safeguard the efficacy of the Red Cross emblem. Strict orders have been given to this end, in view of the deep conviction of the Italian Government of the essential value of the Red Cross for all the interested States. The Red Cross emblem must be scrupulously respected and must not be in any way abused."—*March* 30, 1936. *To the International Red Cross.*

During April, 1936, evidence was presented in Geneva of deliberate Italian attacks on Red Cross units.

"You know I am a man sparing in promises, but what I have promised I maintain."—*March* 18, 1937. *At Tripoli, when presented with the "Sword of Islam."*

"To the bad faith of others we oppose unimpeachable loyalty; to the castle of lies of others, the impetuous and overwhelming blast of our truth."—*March* 23, 1937. *On the eighteenth anniversary of the foundation of the Fascist group.*

"At a memorable meeting in Berlin I said that, according to the law of Fascist morality, when one has a friend one stands by him to the end. We have done that, and we shall do it, with Germany."—*June* 10, 1940. *At the Palazzo Venezia, announcing the declaration of war.*

"The law of Fascist morality" was differently expressed in a speech of Mussolini's at the Chamber on January 3, 1925.

"You will understand," he said then, "that, after having journeyed for a long time with travelling companions to whom our gratitude will always go forth for what they have done, a pause is needed to see if the same road, with the same companions, can be trodden in future."

PEACE PROFESSIONS.

"I wish to reject and repudiate all the futile chatter and defamation by those people who pretend to know that Italy wants to prepare for war. . . . Italy will never take the initiative in promoting war."—*January* 5, 1931. *In a message in English on a British Movietone news-reel.*

"We desire peace with all countries, with those that are distant, those that are near, those that are very near."—*August* 1, 1931. *At Ravenna, opening an aqueduct dedicated to those who fell in the last War.*

"Italy supports a lasting understanding among the Great Powers, so as to guarantee more efficiently the peaceful development of the smaller States."—*January* 1, 1934. *In the Berlin* Borsen-Courier.

"The Italian people demands to be left in peace because it is intent on a long and hard task."—*March* 17, 1937. *At the Tripoli Samples Fair.*

"I believe that if President Roosevelt will take the initiative of calling a conference for the limitation of armaments in the immediate future this gesture would certainly have a great success. Italy desires peace. She needs it for a long time in order to develop the forces at her disposal."—May 27, 1937. *In a statement to the Scripps—Howard newspapers.*

"The exit of Italy from the League of Nations is an event of great historical significance which has attracted the attention of the world, and its consequences cannot yet be completely foreseen. But it does not mean that we shall abandon our fundamental lines of policy, directed towards collaboration and peace."—*December* 11, 1937. *At the Palazzo Venezia.*

"If we had any intention of setting the world ablaze we should not be harnessing ourselves to a task so enormous. If, in spite of the storm clouds away on the horizon, we dared to start and go on with this work cheerfully, it ought to be considered a hopeful sign, and as proof that we do not want to attack anyone, but only to get on with our job."—*April* 20, 1939. *At the launching of preparations for the World Exhibition to be held in* 1942.

ABYSSINIA.

"There must be no misunderstanding about the centuries-old task assigned to this and future generations of Italians. There is no question of territorial conquest—this must be understood by all both far and near—but of a natural expansion which ought to lead to a

collaboration between Italy and the peoples of Africa and the East. Italy can, above all, civilize Africa, and her position in the Mediterranean gives her this right and imposes this duty on her. She demands no privileges and monopolies."—*March* 18, 1934. *At the second Quinquennial Assembly of the regime.*

"With Abyssinia—especially since Ras Tafari's visit to Italy—our relations have become particularly friendly. The clouds which agents of other interests would have had gather on the horizon of Italo-Abyssinian relations have vanished. A Pact of Friendship, the first which Abyssinia will have signed with any European Power, will no doubt set a seal on this new and happy state of affairs."—*June* 5, 1928. *In the Senate.*

October 3, 1935. Italy invaded Abyssinia.

ALBANIA

"Albania knows that she can count on Italy's friendship, and knows that this friendship is absolutely loyal, profoundly sincere, and scrupulously anxious not to do or say anything which even people acting in bad faith could interpret as an intervention in the internal affairs of the Albanian State . . . Italy has but one fundamental interest—that the Albanian State, led by the firm and wise hand of a man of the eminent quality of Ahmed Zog, should consolidate even further her unity at home and her autonomy before the world . . . In a few years Albania will be a State in the widest and most complete sense of the word."—*June* 5, 1928. *In the Senate.*

"Italy has observed with satisfaction the progressive, social and political consolidation of Albania under Your Majesty's rule, and assures Your Majesty and Your Majesty's Government that they can always count on a constant friendship and cordial collaboration with her ally."—*September* 5, 1929. *In a telegram to King Zog, on the anniversary of his accession.*

"Italy's policy in Albania is quite clear and absolutely straightforward. Its sole object is to preserve and to respect the independent status of this small country, which for centuries has lived in friendship with us."—*May* 28, 1936. *In an interview in the Daily Telegraph.*

Good Friday, April 7, 1939. Italy invaded Albania.

AUSTRIA

"Immediately after the war Italy instituted a policy of friendship towards Austria with the object of defending her integrity and independence. For a long time Italy was alone, but other countries have now awakened. Austria knows she can count on Italy to the end."—*March* 18, 1934. *At the second Quinquennial Assembly of the regime.*

"The independence of Austria, for which he fell, is a principle which has been defended, and will be defended still more strenuously, by Italy . . . His memory will be honoured not only in Austria but everywhere in the civilized world, which has already stigmatized with its moral condemnation those who are responsible both directly and at a distance."—*July* 26, 1934. *In a telegram to the Vice-Chancellor of Austria, after the murder of Dollfuss.*

"Recent events, which the whole Italian people have followed with deep emotion, have come to consolidate the relations between our two countries. The experience of these last years has shown that the friendship between Italy and Austria corresponds fully with the needs of European solidarity, and is a sure guarantee of peace and tranquillity for us and for all."—*November* 17, 1934. *At a banquet to the new Austrian Chancellor, Dr. Schuschnigg.*

"In the *communiqué* which was distributed at the close of my conversation in Rome with the Chancellor of the Austrian Republic reference was made to a historic mission to be accomplished by Austria for which it was necessary that her independence and autonomy should be respected . . . Austria is, of course, a German country—certainly as German as Prussia, whose core is Slav, Germanized with difficulty. No one can contest the Germanic character of Austria, but the outward appearance and the expression, the very way of life, of Austrian Germanism are very different from those of Prussian Germanism. We are faced with two worlds which, during past centuries, have revolved in different orbits and have often been opposed on the field of battle . . . . To rid the German *Weltanschauung* of everything in it that is exclusive, crude, and repulsive to other nations that they may be given as one of the achievements of the Austrian spirit in all its manifestations, from politics to literature . . . There is an Austrian spirit which has taken forms which are not German but Austrian. These forms have been influenced, above all, by the culture of the Latin West, represented by Italy. . . . I believe that in the passing of the years, with the strengthening of the State, with the improvement of her economy, everyone will become convinced that Austria can exist—that is to say, that there can exist a second German State in Europe, German, but master of its own destiny."—*February* 13, 1935. *In the Popolo d'Italia.*

When, on March 12, 1938, Germany invaded Austria, Mussolini made no move. Four days later he said, "Italy has never given, either directly or indirectly, any guarantee to protect Austrian independence."

POLAND

"Dr. Stresemann has promised that Germany will modify her attitude towards the alien minorities within the borders of the Reich. I take note of it for the future, but to-day the truth is that the Germans do not tolerate schools of the Polish tongue in the territories where Polish minorities exist."—*February* 10, 1926. *In the Senate.*

"I support the proposed admission of Poland to the Council of the League of Nations as a permanent member. She ought to enter at the same time as Germany, and not later, just as she has been admitted on the same footing as Germany at Locarno. You may be sure that if Germany is admitted alone to the Council on this occasion she is reserving herself to sell, later on, her acquiescence in the permanent admission of Poland by claiming certain concessions, such as the evacuation of occupied territory and the obtaining of colonial mandates."—*February* 27, 1926. *In an interview in the Petit Parisien.*

"With this great power (Poland), born of the War and now consolidated into a unitary state, which every day is strengthening its political, economic, and moral cohesion . . . there is the possibility of common action, specific of course, in certain directions and for specific eventualities . . . I have no need to emphasize the political importance of resurgent Poland, already numbering 30,000,000 inhabitants, and lying between an exhausted Russia and a Germany which is regaining her strength."—*January* 5, 1928. *In the Senate.*

"Still more admirable is the work by which in these twenty years Poland has succeeded in building a political and military structure which secures for her that position among the Great Powers to which she is entitled and that important function in the life of Europe to which she is called by her geographical position and her historical tradition. Today it is not possible to face the problems of political equilibrium and harmony between the European nations without the collaboration of Poland."—*February* 25, 1929. "*Message to Poland*" *in the Gazeta Polska.*

"I congratulate you on the attitude shown by Colonel Beck, your Foreign Minister, throughout this conflict. In his conversations with Baron Aloisi he has manifested real friendship and good will towards Italy and understanding of our needs. I in turn assure Poland that her situation is well understood in Italy and that there is a solid basis for friendship between the two nations."—*September* 19, 1935. *In an interview in the Kurjer Warszawski, during the diplomatic offensive that preceded the Abyssinian War.*

When, on September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland, Mussolini had nothing to say about his former friendship with that country. On September 27, he expressed his satisfaction that "the Polish question had been liquidated."

GREECE

"In foreign policy the most salient events have been the signature of the treaty with Abyssinia and the new treaty with Greece. The Greco-Italian treaty, with that signed with Turkey, completes and stabilizes the Government's specific policy in the Eastern Mediterranean."—*September* 24, 1928. *At a Council of Ministers.*

"Greece and Italy were the springs from which civilization and culture spread from the Mediterranean to the whole world. . . . The Italian Government always had a clear vision of the importance of the Hellenic factor in Eastern Europe . . . This vision has strengthened us in our deep conviction that an intimate and sincere collaboration between our two States will be efficacious, and will become an intimate and sincere collaboration between our two peoples. Such is the spirit which has animated us in concluding the treaty which we signed this morning."—*November* 24, 1928. *At a banquet offered to Venizelos.*

"The end of Sanctions will mark the entry of Italy into the ranks of the satisfied States. The smaller Mediterranean States have nothing to fear, absolutely nothing. Italy has treaties of friendship with Greece and Turkey, and is determined to observe them."—*May* 28, 1936. *In an interview in the Daily Telegraph.*

"I solemnly declare that Italy does not intend to drag other people who are her neighbours by sea and by land into the conflict. Let Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Egypt and Greece take note of these words of mine."—*June* 10, 1940. *At the Palazzo Venetia in announcing the declaration of war against the Allies.*

October 28, 1940. Italy invaded Greece.

BRITAIN AND HER ALLIES

"The famous English attitude towards the European equilibrium, that of opposition to hegemonies on the Continent, has always made little Piedmont and later greater Italy take its place by the side of England for the defence of common ideals. And since the conquest of Gibraltar has made the British Empire a Mediterranean Power her future remains for ever more closely bound to that of Italy, because both nations desire that a stable equilibrium, which is the guarantee of peace and prosperity, should be maintained in that zone . . . . I am able to pledge the welcome of the Italian public to all that will help to make it better acquainted with the greatness of England and her mighty contribution to world civilization. . . . Between Italy, who is now with tenacious will and severe discipline striving to educate once more her sons in the virtues that made Rome great, and England, who has forged a wonderful empire on the anvil of Rome, and has powerfully contributed to the diffusion of civilization in the world, there can only be deep, sincere and heartfelt friendship."—*February* 9, 1926. *In an interview in the New York Times.*

"In saying that the friendship between Great Britain and Italy is traditional, one is not repeating a common place but expressing a reality. The friendship between the two peoples is profound. By this I mean that they have never been divided in the past, that they have worked together for peace . . .

One of the cardinal points of Italian policy is friendship with Great Britain. Such friendship requires no protocols to strengthen or perfect it."—*June* 5, 1928. *In the Senate.*

June 10, 1940. Italy declared war on the Allies.

MAXIMS FOR THE AXIS

"Those people are crazy who . . . permit of a racialism with all its gratuitously pretended purity."—*October* 22, 1933. *In an address to a deputation of Florentine Fascists.*

An imitation of Nazi racial policy was introduced during 1938.

"There are no secret intentions hidden behind my visit to Germany. Nothing will be planned here to divide a Europe which is already divided enough. . . To the whole world, which is asking tensely what the result of this meeting will be, war or peace, the Fuhrer and I can answer with a loud voice: 'Peace'."—*September* 28, 1937. *In Berlin.*

"The solution of the problem which is tormenting Europe at the moment has only one name, 'plebiscites'—plebiscites for all the nationalities which want them."—*September* 18, 1938. *At Trieste, during the Czechoslovak crisis.*

Hitler found a solution without plebiscites with which Mussolini concurred.

"All over the world hundreds of millions of men are now asking whether there is to be peace or war. After a cold and dispassionate examination of the situation, I reply that there are not in Europe at present problems so big and so active as to justify a war, which, from a European conflict, would naturally become universal."—*May* 14, 1939. *In Turin.*

On June 7, 1939, Mussolini first openly boasted of the Italian help given to General Franco, in spite of the Non-Intervention Agreement. "We did not hesitate," he said, "to give our full aid openly from the first days right up to the final triumph."

On November 18, 1940, Mussolini said: "I asked and obtained from the Fuhrer permission for direct Italian participation in the battle against Britain with Italian aeroplanes and submarines.

"And there are menaces which must be guarded against, and the pan-German menace is one of them. Think of this Germanic block of 80,000,000! The possibility of the common danger should increasingly bring together France and Italy, who are not divided by any serious question and who between them represent 80,000,000 inhabitants, as many as the German block. If that balance is maintained, the peace of Europe will not be disturbed."—*February* 27, 1926. *In an interview in the Petit Parisien.*

On May 20, 1939, Mussolini, speaking of the forthcoming signing of the alliance between Italy and Germany, said: "Thus, a block of 150,000,000 men will be formed, which will be irresistible."

THE NATION THAT DARED

Many things have been said about Greece and what it stands for. Here are a few quotations from a recent broadcast speech by Professor Gilbert Murray:—

"While the small nations of the West have been conquered one by one, and the nations of the East bullied into submission without daring to raise their heads, one alone —the smallest among them—has dared to stand up against the giants and is not only standing up but has actually been winning victory after victory."

"Think first of their freedom. It is freedom for which we are now fighting, freedom against the claims of despots who are above the law, like the Roman Emperors who were worshipped as gods. There was never in Greece a super-human semi-divine Great King, as there were in Babylon and Egypt and in Rome afterwards. The Greeks had kings and leaders—some good, some bad—but they are always sharply warned that they are not super-human and will only get into trouble if they think they are. They msut no put up megalomaniac inscriptions about their glory. They must not expect to have concubines and attendants sacrificed on their graves. They must not expect people to kiss the earth on entering their presence or to walk backwards on leaving it. They must not sieze other men's wives and daughters. They are never above the law; the law is always above them. The meanest of their citizen-fellows has the right of free speech and cannot be condemned unheard. Take another significant fact. The Romans, as we all know, rejoiced in gladiatorial games, where sometimes professional gladiators fought to death to amuse the mob; sometimes it was criminals or slaves who were butchered or thrown to wild beasts. The taste for these games spread everywhere; the degraded mobs in most countries liked them and it was a regular form of flattery to Rome to adopt the great Roman institution; it spread everywhere except to Greece. In Greece only one city gave in—the rather disreputable city of Corinth."

"How is this insistence on freedom, free speech, equality before the law, connected with the great achievements of the Greeks in art, thought and literature? We can see at least this connection that if freedom does not of itself necessarily produce great art or thought the absence of freedom makes great art and thought impossible. It is not for nothing that the tyrants of Germany and Italy to-day have driven out their great writers and men of science and are taking the trouble to murder university students. In fighting for freedom the Greeks fought not merely for the right to be unpersecuted in their daily lives; they fought for the right to think and to speak, to write poems and plays and books on philosophy and to build temples like the Parthenon. And so do we."

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

The Mixture as Before

Now that air warfare has been resumed over Western Europe, following the recent lull due to bad weather, it is interesting to notice that the Nazi radio has returned to its attempts of last year to magnify the activities of the *Luftwaffe* and to minimize the achievements of the R.A.F. The last few days have seen many instances of this lying technique in action.

To begin with, Berlin broadcast on February 3 a most circumstantial account of " a heavy Nazi raid on London on the night of Thursday, January 30." It took the form of an interview with a young German airman alleged to have participated in the attack. There was a graphic description of Goering's youthful heroes, at seven o'clock in the evening, donning their heavy winter flying kit—including overalls with fur-lined boots, leather cap, breathing apparatus, swimming suit and leather gloves; then came " a hearty dinner ", a drive to the aerodrome and, eventually, the flight to London amid a hell of anti-aircraft shells and searchlights. "Blood-red fires gleamed through the clouds over London " as the airmen listened to the explosions of their heavy bombs before roaring homewards at 15 degrees below zero.

Apart from the difficulty of eating a heavy dinner while clad in leather cap, breathing apparatus and swimming suit, and the impossibility of hearing above the noise of one's engines the explosions of bombs many thousands of feet below, this account might have been convincing—if there had been any raids on London on the night of Thursday, January 30. But, alas, there were no enemy aircraft at all over London, or any other part of Britain, on that night!

History Re-written

On February 6, trying to belittle the success of the R.A.F.'s big daylight " sweep " of the French and Belgian coasts on the previous day, the German wireless claimed that 17 British planes were destroyed and the rest " driven back before reaching the target area." Actually, the British force lost seven escorting fighters, but their bombers were able to make heavy attacks on docks, Nazi warships and oil supplies at Ostend, Brest, Bordeaux and other invasion bases, as well as on several Nazi aerodromes inland. The Germans, of course, omitted to mention that four of their own defending fighters were shot down.

Berlin, by the way, has not only stuck to its story of " 17 British planes destroyed " on that particular day, but has subsequently dressed the occasion up as a " significant defeat for the R.A.F." (February 9), contrasting it proudly with the " successful daylight raids on Britain carried out by the German air force last August and September." Goebbels could hardly have chosen a more unfortunate comparison, since the *Luftwaffe's* mass day raids on England early last autumn were defeated so heavily that they have never been repeated. On many occasions the Nazis lost in the region of 100 planes a day, culminating in the disastrous Saturday (September 15) when no fewer than 180 machines were brought down by the R.A.F. during the hours of daylight. It was this staggering blow, coupled with the immense destruction of barges and material along the Channel coast that very night, which forced Hitler to cancel at the eleventh hour the plans he had made to invade England that weekend.

Reporting a dive-bombing attack on a British convoy, also on February 5, Berlin alleges that a 3,000-ton steamer was sunk, and another of from 6,000 to 8,000 tons " struck in its most vital part ". The British Admiralty *communiqué* announced categorically that the 631-ton escorting trawler, *Tourmaline*, was sunk during the attack, but added that no merchant vessel in the convoy was lost or damaged. The Nazi dive-bomber destroyed by another trawler, the *Lady Philomena*, was naturally not mentioned in the German story.

The Importance of Being Decisive

Italy's unbroken succession of defeats in Africa and the Balkans has put her over-worked apologist, Dr. Goebbels, into a quandary from which he emerges declaiming that blessed word " decisive ". Thus, on February 4, the Berlin radio, while admitting Gereral Wavell's victories in Libya, declares that " Egypt and the Mediterranean are not the chief theatre of war—it is not here that the decisive blow will be struck ". The British people know just where the chief theatre of war lies, but neither they nor the rest of the world have forgotten how, after Hitler's invasion plans had been smashed last September, Berlin explained that the Fuehrer's meeting with Mussolini at the Brenner on October 4 presaged " a decisive blow aganist the British on the Suez Canal ".

The world also remember how, after the fall of Sidi Barrani on December 11, another of Geobbel's favourite organs, the *Frankfurter Zeitung* said : " The British cannot speak of this as a decisive action. (They hadn't, by the way). Before using the word decisive, they will have to advance as far as Benghazi, and secure air bases for an attack on Italy herself ".

The Nazi radio on February 4 added that, in order to achieve General Wavell's " minor prestige successes "—perhaps a polite anticipa-

tion of the fall of Benghazi?—Britain was forced "to bring all the resources of the Empire into play". The Empire still has other resources, including the largest military force (4,000,000 strong) ever assembled in the British Isles, a home-based Air Force which has already begun a day-and-night offensive over the Continent, and a Navy which the General Admiral, Reader, recently admitted would have to be defeated before the Nazis could begin to hope for victory.

Rome on Februry 9 enlarged on the Nazi hint by averring:—"Italy is sustaining the full weight of the maximum combined military and naval strength that the British Empire can put forward . . . The best part of British Fleet is concentrated in the Mediterranean". So far from this being the case, the two British capital ships (the *Renown* and the *Malaya*) which took part in Sunday's bombardment of Genoa are among the very oldest of their type in the Royal Navy. The *Renown* was built in 1916, and the *Malaya* in 1915!

Coventry Again

On February 9, the German wireless quoted an article in the *Berliner Boersen Zeitung* by a *Luftwaffe* general, who alleges that the Nazi attacks on Coventry must have had a disastrous effect on Britain's aeroplane output. More than 500 tons of bombs were dropped on Coventry in a single night, boasts the general, and "it is obvious that it is impossible for Britain to continue her manufacture of warplanes according to plan".

Quite apart from the fact that Coventry is neither the only or the chief centre of aircraft manufacture in Britain, it is worth recalling that Mr. Ben Robertson, London correspondent of the New York paper *P.M.*, said in America last month that German bombers had done comparatively little damage to British industry.

"The Coventry story," he added, "was censored, but not because of the amount of damage. It was censored because of the lack of damage."

Germany must indeed be hard up for "pep" propaganda, both for home and outside consumption, if she is forced to fall back on the destruction of Coventry's cathedral, churches, shops, hospitals and civilian homes as evidence of the *Luftwaffe's* victory over Britain's war industry.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Another Red Herring

In its Hindustani bulletin of February 7, the Italian radio produces another red herring by telling the world that the British working classes are urging the Government to conclude peace with the Axis powers and are threatening to go on strike if their demand is not met. Apart from the fact that since the war started, the number of strikes and lockouts in Britain has been the lowest on record, the British workers' point of view was defined by Mr. Will Lawther, President of the Mine-workers' Federation of Great Britain as long ago as August 1940. He said: "The Fascists will only enter this island over our dead bodies". He added that British workers regarded the situation as if a gas explosion had overtaken their comrades in Europe and their lives had to be saved from the Fascist poison gas. "Let it be clear, plain and unmistakable that the view of every section of the British Labour movement is that we fight on until not a trace of the Fascist remains. It is a crusade we have sworn to see through to the end."

Nazi War Aim

On February 5 the Berlin radio complained that Britain intended first to win the war and to enumerate her war aims afterwards.

Germany's war aim was very clearly defined by her Agriculture Minister, Darre who, addressing a group of high Party officials in May 1940, remarked: "We have in mind a modern form of mediæval slavery, which we must and will introduce because we urgently need it to fulfil our great social tasks."

India and the War

In its Hindustani broadcast of February 7, the Nazi wireless stated that, as a result of the war, prices of food-stuffs in India are rising abnormally, thus causing much hardship. It is a well-known fact that a rising price-level is not necessarily an indication of a country's destitution. In any case, however, taking the week ending August 19, 1939, as equal to 100, the All-India wholesale price index, as at the week ended 23rd November 1940, was only 115. Besides, India's exports have substantially increased and nothing indicates the industrial progress of India more strikingly than the fact that this country is now in a position to supply 20,000 out of the 40,000 articles required by the Army.

R.A.F. versus Luftwaffe

On February 6, the German radio proudly announced that "it has been made clear to the world that the R.A.F. is no comparison to the *Luftwaffe*". Whatever the Nazi radio has to say about the superiority of the German air power, the world has seen that during 1940 the Nazi losses in raids over Britain numbered 2,993, while the losses of British fighters over Britain numbered 847, and on the Western Front and in France the British lost 375 machines against the Germans' 945. Furthermore, during January 1941, when Hitler's decision to help Mussolini in the Mediterranean has forced the *Luftwaffe* to fight on two fronts, th German losses over that seal have been 184 machines, against Britain's 14.

Digging for Victory

The German wireless declared on February 5 that "the blockade of Britain is being vigorously carried out" and, to prove its point, we were informed that England is being forced to turn playgrounds into fields. England, however, is making this drive to grow as much of her agricultural produce at home as possible, not because she is forced to do so by the so-called German blockade, but because by so doing, her ships, which ordinarily would have brought her foodstuffs, can bring war material instead.

Bahrein and Britain

On February 7, the German broadcast in Arabic made the fantastic statement that England was handing over Bahrein to America Bahrein is an independent territory with direct treaty relations with Great Britain, and therefore England is in no position to even negotiate about Bahrein with the U.S.A., much less hand her over to America or any other country.

Nazi Intrigues in France

While referring to the new French "National Popular Party", the German broadcast in Hindustani reported on February 3 that hundreds of Frenchmen were joining this organization. In actual fact, this party is a German creation with a full Nazi domestic and foreign programme, which includes the "reconstruction of Europe and the exploitation of Africa by European and Franco-German co-operation". One leader of the Nazi-inspired party insinuated over the radio that Vichy was jeopardizing the French future and revealed that the Germans had decided to liberate as many prisoners as there were French workmen willing to accept work in Germany.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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